

GREENBELT News Review

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MARCH 18, 2010

Rev. Edward Birner Dies, Long-time Lutheran Pastor

by Sandra A. Lange

Former Holy Cross Lutheran Church pastor Rev. Edward H. Birner, 81, died on Sunday, March 14, 2010, following a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. Services will be held at Holy Cross, 6905 Greenbelt Road, on Friday, March 19 at 11 a.m., with visitation at the church on Thursday, March 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. The community is invited. Birner served as pastor of Holy Cross for 40 years, from 1953 to 1993.

He grew up in Mattoon, Ill., the son of a Lutheran minister. He came to Greenbelt first in the summer of 1951, assigned here as vicar. The congregation met then in Center Elementary School (now the Community Center). Part of Birner's job was to oversee construction of a permanent church building at 22 Ridge Road, now the site of Green Ridge House. He later commented that not only had he never heard of Greenbelt, a town of only 7,000 (half of them children) before he arrived but he knew very little about construction. A year later he returned to Concordia Seminary and was ordained



Rev. Edward Birner with wife Nancy in September 2003 at the 50th anniversary of his ordination.

in August 1953. His first parish assignment was Greenbelt.

As Greenbelt Lutheran Church's (the name changed in 1958) first full-time minister, he conducted services in what was little more than a basement sanctuary. The church's budget had been depleted at that point in the construction and the building was never finished. Church members walked down the steps each Sunday to attend services. Nevertheless, Birner was a popular minister and grew the congregation to over 300 members in his first years.

Soon after arriving in Greenbelt, Birner met his wife Nancy, a

See **BIRNER**, page 4

Census 2010

"A March to the Mailbox"

by Jon Aerts

Yep, there's Frank, sporting his plaid bathrobe, brown mustache and receding hairline. "I'm just one guy," he tells us, the viewers. "But when I fill out the [2010] census, I'm helping to build a better school for Pete and Jen . . . improving our roads for Mr. Grippio's carpool . . . I'm making healthcare better!"

But wait. Frank's real name is Michael Duff, an actor in a commercial for the U.S. Census Bureau's decennial survey of 2010. Yes, that once-a-decade questionnaire all households in America must fill out.

Bullhorn in hand, Frank then struts down a sidewalk while letting it all blurt out: "My census answers help our voices to be heard in Washington," he proclaims – this, as hundreds of others take stride alongside the guy in the plaid bathrobe. Why? "So we get our fair share of funding!"

The commercial then cuts back to Frank's front-yard mailbox. Frank is standing beside it, as is his following. "The census is 10 questions and 10 minutes. Fill it out and mail it back," he says as streamers burst overhead and Frank slips his census into the

mailbox. "And help make your town better!"

Unlike decades past, ads like these should be no stranger to you. Why? Because of the \$133 million the U.S. Census Bureau has pumped into television, radio and newspaper ads since January. (Heck, even Nickelodeon's Dora the Explorer got in on the action through a public service announcement aimed at children: "We did it! We helped mommy fill out our census forms!")

"This multi-million dollar ad campaign is a key part of getting the word out far and wide about the census," said U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke in January. "It determines how we distribute over \$400 billion for things like schools, public works, emergency services and senior centers."

As the Washington Post reported on March 9, however, "every jurisdiction does not get the same amount of federal funds per person." Marylanders, for example, received \$1,136 per head from the federal government in 2008. District residents, by contrast, received \$4,656.

See **CENSUS**, page 10

Women's History Month Profile

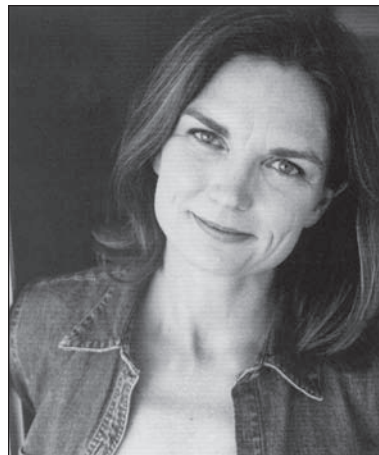
Leigh Wilson Smiley: Bringing Voice and Relevance to the Stage

by Karen Yoho

What if at some point in our lives, maybe after we graduated from college or chose a trade or profession or maybe when we reached a milestone birthday such as the big 4-0, someone assigned each of us a motto? It would be a simple phrase describing our life in one sentence.

For Leigh Wilson Smiley that apt expression would be taken from one of her favorite playwrights, William Shakespeare: "All the world's a stage."

Smiley, an assistant professor in the Department of Theater at the University of Maryland in College Park, can recite the entire monologue from Shakespeare's "As You Like It" and many more. Not only does she have the acting chops to make that monologue come alive for a contemporary audience but she has worked with hundreds of actors as voice and dialect coach and director, helping each of them to understand what they're saying and how these words apply to the human condition.



Leigh Wilson Smiley

"In my work with actors, I am dedicated to helping them share their real, unobstructed voice. Only then can their performance reach the audience, be relevant to that point in time and that character and really speak to them," says Smiley.

"A good book can change your life forever. So can good theater. The audience can reflect

on the world and see themselves within the world through the performance on the stage."

Smiley's passion for drama began in high school. But even before that, she had watched her father perform as an amateur actor when she was growing up on a horse farm in upstate New York, and then later in New York City. She attended an academically challenging college in Vermont, where she developed her own curriculum, produced a one-person show, defended a thesis and delighted in the one-on-one contact she had with professors. "I consider it my master's," Smiley explains.

Professional Work

Following her graduation, she worked professionally as an actor, adjunct teaching faculty member and director. In 1998 she studied in New York under Kristin Linklater at Columbia University.

Smiley earned her Linklater Voice Teacher designation and is

See **SMILEY**, page 6

Council Amends Standing Rules, Okays Replacing Pool Equipment

by Thomas X. White

With a reception honoring awardees for the 15th annual ACE Educator awards ceremony and a very well attended awards presentation, the Greenbelt City Council did not get down to its regular business until nearly 9 p.m. on March 8. The night's agenda included several resolutions, state legislative issues and an update on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments "Greater Washington 2050 Compact."

Resolutions

Up for second reading and final adoption was a resolution revising and updating the standing rules for the council. Last adopted in 2004, the rules were considered by the new seven-member council at a worksession in December 2009. Most recommended revisions were made necessary by the increased size of council.

Although the agenda comments provided at the council meeting indicated that other revisions were editorial or had been made to clarify existing provisions, several of these changes could be linked to specific incidents occurring during the term of the previous council.

Section I.8 of the rules labeled Council Meetings provides that all meetings of council, with the

exception of executive sessions authorized by applicable state law, shall be open to the public and that citizens of the city shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard on any matter being considered at open meetings. Language in the existing rules was modified to require that a citizen desiring to speak on a matter being considered by the council " . . . raise their hand in front of Council" (new language) and, after being recognized " . . . by the presiding officer" (new language), shall confine themselves to the question under debate, avoid personalities and refrain from impugning the motives of any councilmember's argument

or vote or the statements of any other citizen or person.

The previous rule merely required that the citizen, " . . . address the presiding officer." This change appears to address several uncomfortable exchanges during the past term between the mayor and a resident, where the mayor directed the speaker to address the topic and stay within a reasonable time limit.

Another change in section VIII.2 having to do with the agenda of meetings appears to address a controversy in the previous council term relating to

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

What Goes On

Friday, March 19

1 p.m., Senior Ice Cream Social, Community Center

Monday, March 22

8 p.m., City Council Meeting, Municipal Building, live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, March 24

8 p.m., Council Worksession with Planning Dept. on GHI Right-of-Way Encroachments, Community Center

Thursday, March 25

7:30 p.m., Greenbelt Homes, Inc. Board Meeting, GHI Board Room

Saturday, March 27

8:30 to 9:30 p.m., Earth Hour – Turn off lights for this one hour and join in GreenACES activities (see city ad on page 5)

Letters

THANKS!

Thanks to everyone who donated items to our children’s clothes and such swaps this winter. The leftover items were donated to the American Workers truck March 13. On behalf of the Greenbelt Mamas and Papas, we wish to thank the Youth Center for hosting these events. We’ll have more swaps (for infants, kids and adults) this spring and fall at the Greenbelt Farmers Market. Stay tuned!

Li'l Dan Celdran

Just What Is Important?

As I read about the many different adjustments each school district is making to their school calendar, it’s obvious to me which districts consider education the most urgent issue. Some are adding time to each school day, canceling spring break or part of it, adding days to the end of the year or using other ways to make up the time missed during the blizzard. The message is clear: school is important.

The decision-makers in our county have decided that five days are so insignificant that they are just being written off. I believe this is a mistake. Educating our children must be the top priority for all of us: more important than money or lack of money and more important than vacation days or lack of vacation days. I doubt that students will notice they are receiving less than 180 days of instruction but I am sure they would notice if parents and teachers were talking about the need to add time to the calendar. Perhaps they would get the idea that education matters, not just by hearing our words but by seeing our actions.

I’m disappointed that Dr. Hite and the elected school board are not standing up for the importance of each school day. Public education is a community responsibility. We need leadership that reminds us of our part in that responsibility.

Elizabeth Wellborn

Well Done

A hearty “Well Done!” to our local theater management for showing “Hurt Locker” starting last weekend. Because of all the media “buzz” surrounding the Oscar award nominations of “Avatar” and “Hurt Locker” – the fact that the producers of these films had gone through a divorce and were thereby equivalent to rivals; that “Hurt Locker” had been made using minimal funding whereas “Avatar” had put over \$300,000,000 into developing their spectacular special effects – people who had not yet seen “Hurt Locker” became interested in this production. So Thank You! for making it available to the local public on the big screen.

The unfortunate fact that roadside bombs (Improvised Explosive Devices or IEDs) continue to be such a problem for our forces in Iraq and Afghanistan gives this film a continued relevance to our time.

P.S. Because last weekend’s weather was so gray and unexciting, the idea of an action movie was especially welcome!

Christopher K. Scherer

A Preview

Man of LaMancha Coming To Greenbelt Arts Center

by Robin Everly

Broadway comes to Greenbelt when the musical Man of La Mancha opens at the Greenbelt Arts Center (GAC) this Friday, March 19 at 8 p.m. It will run for four weekends through April 10 including Easter weekend.

The original 1965 Broadway production ran for over two thousand performances and won seven Tony awards and New York Drama Critics’ Circle Award for Best Musical.

The show has had four Broadway revivals and was made into a movie in 1972.

Based on the 15th century classic Spanish novel, The Ingenious Hidalgo Don Quixote of La Mancha (Don Quixote), written by Miguel de Cervantes, the musical blends author Cervantes and the Don Quixote character from his book.

Failed author, soldier, actor and tax collector Miguel de Cervantes is thrown in prison with his manservant by the Spanish Inquisition, charged with foreclosing on a monastery. The two have brought all their worldly goods with them to the prison including Cervantes’ manuscript of an unfinished novel. They are attacked by fellow prisoners who set up a mock trial. The prisoners decree that Cervantes will hand over all of his possessions if he is found guilty in their trial.

Cervantes defends himself by creating a play that is acted out by him and the prisoners. For his prison cell play, Cervantes transforms himself into an elderly gentleman who has read so many books of chivalry that he believes

himself a true knight-errant, Don Quixote de La Mancha.

Don Quixote and his loyal “squire” iconically attack a windmill. He pursues proper dubbing as a knight. He courts the favor of his beloved Dulcinea. All this occurs within the confines of the play acted within the limits of the prison cell and provides the occasion for wonderful music.

Over 50 artists have recorded the signature song “The Impossible Dream.” The title song “Man of La Mancha” and Don Quixote’s serenade to his beloved “Dulcinea” are also audience pleasers.

GAC’s production of Man of La Mancha is being directed by Curt Sommers, who did a terrific job last year bringing the musical Amadeus to GAC. The title role of Cervantes/Quixote is being played by Michael J. Galizia who was in previous GAC productions, the Importance of Being Earnest and The Tempest.

There are several Greenbelters in the cast. Greenbelt resident Aref Dajani plays the Padre while Greenbelt resident and Goddard Space Flight Center employee Michael Hartman is the Captain of the Inquisition. Greenbelt resident and the News Review’s own Helen Sydavar is a prisoner in Cervantes’ cell. Other Greenbelters include Jsun Maggio, Phil Brandeis and Michael and Meg Nemeth.

Enjoy live theater and orchestra in Old Greenbelt – go see Man of La Mancha.

Also contributing to this article were Mary Willis Clark and Helen Sydavar.

Correction

Too much camaraderie can get you in trouble . . . and we’re in trouble with one of our writers for taking liberties with things in her submitted On Screen pieces about the movies at Old Greenbelt Theatre. Additional information was added to the description of Oscar-winner Hurt Locker, resulting in the aforesaid camaraderie misspelling that was in last week’s On Screen piece.

Added to our headline for the On Screen piece about the prior movie (heads are not usually written by reporters) that resulted in valid objections about how alcoholism was described, she is worried about her reputation for social consciousness, to say nothing of spelling. Our apologies to staffer Carol Griffith.



Attention GHI Members

Update on Repairs of Roofs and Gutters Damaged by Snowstorm

The February snow storms damaged the copper gutters on over 300 units. Several porch roofs as well as tiles on several slate roofs were also damaged.

GHI has inspected the damages and will hire a contractor to undertake the necessary repairs. GHI has filed a claim with its insurance carrier to recover costs for the losses incurred. Because of the lengthy process that is involved in processing the insurance claim and undertaking the repairs, staff estimates that it could take until the end of May before all repairs are completed.

We appreciate your patience with the process of getting the repairs done.

Grin Belt



“This is my own March Madness . . . spring!”

On Screen

Polanski Political Thriller Here

Hired to ghostwrite the memoirs of a former British Prime Minister (Pierce Brosnan), author (Ewan McGregor) soon finds himself in danger in “The Ghost Writer,” playing at the Old Greenbelt Theatre beginning Friday. The writer discovers explosive information about a terrorism/counterterrorism scandal written by the previous ghostwriter – and that he died mysteriously soon afterward. Also starring Kim Cattrall, this political thriller is directed by the controversial Roman Polanski (Rosemary’s Baby, Chinatown).

Runs 2 hours, 8 min. Rated PG-13 for language and violence.

– Carol Griffith

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Carol Griffith, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg; and Mary Willis Clarke

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition “Food and Friendship” program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for March 22 through 26 will be:

Monday – Chicken noodle soup, barbecued beef ribette on a bun, cole slaw, baked beans, fresh apple.

Tuesday – Orange juice, roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, tropical fruit mix.

Wednesday – Creamy celery soup, ham and potato casserole, garden salad with dressing, green beans, red Jello with fruit.

Thursday – Grapefruit juice, barbecued chicken, black-eyed peas, chopped collards, fresh banana.

Friday – Cranapple juice, baked tilapia with butter sauce, rice medley, chopped kale, baked apple.

At the Library

Storytimes

A librarian will read age-appropriate stories.

Tuesday, March 23, 1:30 and 2 p.m., Cuddletime for newborns to 17 months old with caregiver, limit 15 babies for each group.

Wednesday, March 24, 10:30 and 11 a.m., Toddlertime for ages 18 to 35 months, with caregiver, limit 15 children for each group.

Thursday, March 25, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages three to five years, limit 20 children.

Caregivers are asked to pick up a free ticket at the Children’s Desk.

GHI Notes

Thursday, March 18, 6:45 p.m., Investment Committee – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Finance Committee – Board Room

Friday, March 19, Offices closed (emergency maintenance available, call 301-474-6011)

Wednesday, March 24, 7 p.m., Buildings Committee – Board Room

7:30 p.m., Marketing Committee – GHI Library

Thursday, March 25, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Saturday, March 27, 11 a.m., Pre-purchase Orientation – Board Room

Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

Holy Cross Thrift Store

Every Thursday 10am – 4pm

Good, clean clothes for women, men and children!
Shoes, jewelry, books, etc.

6905 Greenbelt Road
Greenbelt, Md. 301-345-5111

Senior Ice Cream Social Tomorrow

The Greenbelt Recreation Department Senior Center is hosting its 13th annual Ice Cream Social for seniors on Friday, March 19. This free program will begin at 1 p.m. in the Community Center gym where the New Dimension Singers will present Jukebox Jamboree.

Participants will be able to socialize, relax and be entertained with memorable tunes. After the performance, people will make their own ice cream sundaes. Ice cream will be available beginning at 2:30 p.m. in the dining room. All seniors are welcome to attend this afternoon program.

For more information call the Greenbelt Community Center at 301-397-2208.

ACE Science Club To Meet March 25

The next Greenbelt Children’s ACE Science Club meeting will be on Thursday, March 25 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. The free club is for all Greenbelt children from 8 to 14 years of age. It is sponsored by the City of Greenbelt and administered by the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Education (ACE). Come enjoy science experiments, explorations, magic tricks and more.

Cajun Jam to Play At New Deal Café

Cajun Jam will play at the New Deal Café on Wednesday, March 24 from 7 to 9:30 pm.

The free session is for dancers, musicians and listeners who enjoy Cajun music. Beginners are welcome.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

WEEK OF MAR. 19

Ghost Writer

(PG-13)

Friday
*4:50, 7:30, 9:55

Saturday
*2:10, *4:50, 7:30, 9:55

Sunday
*2:10, *4:50, 7:30

Monday-Thursday
*5, 7:30

*These shows at \$6.00
301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pandgtheatres.com



Greenbelt Arts Center

Opening This Week!

Man of La Mancha

March 19, 20, 25, 26 & 27, April 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 & 10 at 8 PM

Sunday Matinees: March 21, 28 & April 4 at 3 PM

Tickets are \$18 general admission, and \$15 for seniors and students.

COMING SOON:
Fred & Frieda – April 15-18, 2010. Directed by Sheilah Crossley-Cox

Call for Reservations at 301.441.8770

Greenbelt Elementary Spring Fair Saturday

Saturday, March 20 will be a great day for Greenbelt Elementary School staff, students and parents and members of the community to relax and have fun together at the PTA’s annual Spring Fair.

Kids can do crafts like paper airplanes, playful hats and sand art. Popular games include the wildly amusing “potty toss,” fishing for ducks and digging for treasure in a sand box. Both adults and children can participate in the cakewalk or measure how fast they can throw a baseball with Officer Parker and his radar gun.

For the Bike Rodeo, bring a bike and helmet. The silent auction (bring plenty of cash) will feature gift certificates from local businesses and other donated items. Kids can also bid on special lunches sponsored by teachers.

A one-day Scholastic Book Fair (cash or credit cards) is offered again this year; it earns the school hundreds of dollars’ worth of books.

To learn more about the Greenbelt Elementary School PTA, visit the webpage at www.greenbelt.com/gespta.

*More Community Events
see pages 2, 6, 8, 10 and 11*

MONTHLY MEDITATION & DIALOGUE SERIES

Third Saturday Of The Month
Greenbelt Community Center, Rm.114
March 20 from 5 to 6 PM

Next meetings: April 17 and May 15

Sponsored by CAFH a path of spiritual unfolding
www.cafh.org

For more information contact Francisca Saavedra at francisca12@gmail.com or 240-353 7183

Green Ridge House Opens Waiting List

Green Ridge House, the City of Greenbelt’s HUD Section 8-202 apartment building, will open its waiting list from March 22 – 26, 2010, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Green Ridge House is an independent living apartment building located at 22 Ridge Road.

All applicants must apply in person and be 62 years of age or older or be a disabled adult. All applicants will have a credit and criminal background check performed to determine eligibility.

Applicants should be prepared to move within 30 days once they receive a call that a unit is available. Rent is based upon 30 percent of one’s income within a maximum gross income of \$35,950 for individuals and \$41,100 for couples. All apartments are one bedroom units.

Only applicants who would consider moving within the next 6 months to one year should apply.



Greenbriar Senior Brunch Offered

Seniors living in Greenbriar/Glen Oaks are invited to a brunch on Thursday, April 8 at noon. Participants are asked to sign up in advance. The first 30 residents to sign up are free. There is a fee for guests and for residents after 30 have registered.

To register call Tiesha Eley at 301-441-1096 or send an email to teley.greenbriar@verizon.net.

Labor Day Festival Committee Meets

The Greenbelt Labor Day Festival Committee will hold its annual membership meeting on Wednesday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. Elections will be held for the board of directors and the budget for the coming year will be approved at the meeting.

New volunteers are needed and are encouraged to attend the meeting. Open positions include organizing the Information Day tables, publicity and other roles.

For more information visit <http://greenbelt.com/laborday> or email laborday@greenbelt.com.

Synagogue to Hold Blood Drive Sunday

Mishkan Torah Synagogue will sponsor a blood drive on Sunday, March 21 from noon to 4 p.m. in the synagogue at 10 Ridge Road.

Call the synagogue at 301-474-4223 to schedule a life-saving donation.

Open Microphone For Kids Sunday

There will be a kids’ Open Microphone session at the New Deal Café this Sunday, March 21 from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. It is a regular event for children 17 and under, held on the third Sunday of every month, with kids invited to perform: play a musical instrument, sing, dance, recite a poem, etc.

For more information call Anne Gardner at 301-220-1721 or email annegrn@yahoo.com.

Academy Stadium Theatres

Beltway Plaza Mall
Center Court
301-220-1155

ALL SHOWS BEFORE 5 p.m.
Adults/Seniors: \$6.50
Children: \$6.00

ALL SHOWS BEFORE NOON
ON SATURDAY \$5.00

ALL SHOWS AFTER 5 p.m.
Adults: \$8.50
Students/Military: \$7.50
Children: \$6.00
Seniors: \$6.50

R = ID Required
(!) = No pass, (!!) No pass weekend

Week of MAR. 19

FRI. – SAT.
She’s Out of My League, R
11:40, 2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 10:20
Alice in Wonderland, PG
11:40, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
Diary of a Wimpy Kid, PG-13 (!)
12:45, 3, 5:05, 7:30, 9:35
Green Zone, R
11:30, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20
Our Family Wedding, PG-13 (!!)
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10
Repo Men, R (!)
11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
The Bounty Hunter, PG-13 (!)
11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
Brooklyn’s Finest, R
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45

SUN.
She’s Out of My League, R
11:40, 2:20, 4:50, 7:50
Alice in Wonderland, PG
11:40, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40
Diary of a Wimpy Kid, PG-13 (!)
12:45, 3, 5:05, 7:30
Green Zone, R
11:30, 2:15, 5:05, 7:50
Our Family Wedding, PG-13 (!!)
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40
Repo Men, R (!)
11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50
The Bounty Hunter, PG-13 (!)
11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:50
Brooklyn’s Finest, R
12:45, 3:45, 7

MON. – THU.
She’s Out of My League, R
12:10, 2:40, 5:25, 7:45
Alice in Wonderland, PG
12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:45
Diary of a Wimpy Kid, PG-13 (!)
12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7
Green Zone, R
12:10, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50
Our Family Wedding, PG-13
12:30, 3, 5:40, 8
Repo Men, R (!)
12:20, 2:50, 5:25, 8
The Bounty Hunter, PG-13 (!)
12:20, 2:50, 5:25, 8
Brooklyn’s Finest, R
12:45, 3:45, 6:45

BIRNER continued from page 1

young Lutheran schoolteacher, at a training camp in Baltimore. They were married in 1957 and raised their family of four sons, Andrew, Paul, Jonathan and Joel, in the 13 Court of Ridge Road. On special occasions, the family celebrated with dinners at Ledo's Pizza.

In the 1960s the Capital Beltway was being built. A small parcel of federal land that was part of Greenbelt Park was cut off from the park by the construction. Birner saw an opportunity to build a larger, more visible church on that property. He lobbied Congress for a bill which would transfer ownership of the land to the church. He later called that experience one of the most exciting things he had ever done.

In January 1969, the current building on Greenbelt Road was dedicated. The congregation formed a long procession to walk to their new church where they filled the pews and halls in celebration. Coincidentally, this church has no basement! In 1993, a school building was added to the original structure.

Former Greenbelt City Manager, James, Giese, credits Birner with establishing the city's Good Samaritan Fund. Supported by donations, this fund provides assistance to stranded motorists and others in need in the form of vouchers to local merchants for food and gasoline. Because of Holy Cross' prominent location, Birner was frequently sought out by persons in need.

After 40 years of service, Birner retired from Holy Cross in 1993. He continued to serve as interim minister at various other area churches. He especially enjoyed the summer he spent in Alaska, preaching at small churches in and near Denali National Park. In 2003, Holy Cross honored Pastor Birner with a service of thanksgiving on the 50th anniversary of his ordination. A special tribute to Birner was the singing of the Handel anthem "Forever Blest Is He" in four-part harmony by his four sons. After the service, 280 guests attended a dinner in his honor.

Birner was thanked not only for his years of service but also for his outstanding leadership in the community. In particular, Birner served as the first and long-time chair of Greenbelt's Community Relations Advisory Board and on the Labor Day Festival's Outstanding Citizen Committee.

He was also an active member of the Greenbelt Clergy Association and was the distinguished tall gray-haired man who often walked with other clergy members in the Labor Day Parade. Rev. Daniel Hamlin of the Greenbelt Community Church remembers that "Ed was the linch pin

of the Greenbelt Clergy Association (now known as the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association) when I arrived in 1984. He kept the organization running by ensuring we met regularly and stayed on track when we did. Ed was instrumental in starting the annual Interfaith Baccalaureate Service for graduates of Eleanor Roosevelt High School," he added.

As Mayor Judith Davis proclaimed, "Greenbelt would not have been the same without you and all that you have accomplished." Birner himself summed up his life in Greenbelt on the occasion of the church's 25th anniversary in 1978 when he commented, "I like to think the city of Greenbelt is a better place because the churches are here and I like to think Holy Cross is making some contribution to that." He was especially proud of the active youth programs sponsored by the church.

Birner is survived by his wife of 53 years, Nancy L. Birner; sons Andrew (Betty), Paul (Kristen), Jonathan (Sandy) and Joel (Linda); brother Charles Birner; sisters Alice Bokenkamp and Dorothy Riehl; and six grandchildren, David, Suzanne, Zachary, Amy, Lauren and Danielle.

Interment will be at First Lutheran Church of Bowie cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the National Lutheran Home, Rockville, Md., or Bread for the World, Washington, D.C.

Obituaries

Benjamin E. Boyd

Benjamin E. Boyd, 92, died on February 8, 2010, at his home after a long illness.



He was born October 19, 1917, in Bracey, Va. Mr. Boyd served 26 years in the U.S. Army with two assignments in Korea and two assignments in Germany.

In 1968 he retired from the military and started a new career as a police officer with the D.C. government. He retired in 1987.

In 1979 he and his wife moved to Greenbelt, first to Mandan Road and later to Sunrise Court, where they were among the first residents. He served 27 years as a volunteer with the Greenbrook Homeowners Association until he became ill.

He was a member of St. George's Episcopal Church in Glenn Dale and the American Legion.

He is survived by his wife Erika Boyd of the home address, sister Shirley Mecklin of Baltimore and nieces and nephews.

Mr. Boyd was buried on February 23, 2010, at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

Arrangements were made by Collins Funeral Home in Silver Spring.




Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
www.greenbeltumc.org 301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor



Worship Service 10:00am. Friendship Dinner every second Sunday after the service (pot luck covered dish). Breakfast with pastor every 4th Sunday at 8:30 am

Know ye not why We created you all from the same dust?
That no one should exalt himself over the other. Since We have created you all from one same substance it is incumbent on you to be even as one soul, to walk with the same feet, eat with the same mouth and dwell in the same land, that from your inmost being, by your deeds and actions, the signs of oneness and the essence of detachment may be made manifest. (Baha'u'llah)



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.bahai.us



Mishkan Torah Congregation
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Jonathan Cohen Cantor Phil Greenfield

Friday evening services 8:00 PM except first Friday of the month, when children's service begins at 7:30 PM

Saturday morning services - 9:30 AM
Children's Education, Adult Education, Social Action, etc.

For further information call 301 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Conservative and Reconstructionist



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111

Holy Week Schedule
Palm Sunday – March 28
8:15 & 10:30 Blessing and Distribution of Palms
Holy Thursday – April 1
Services at 12:15 & 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday – April 2
Services at 12:15 & 7:30 p.m.
Easter Sunday – April 4
Festive Service of Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.
Easter reception following service with Easter Egg Hunt

Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

Progressives Meet at Paint Branch

On Wednesday, March 24 the Maryland Chapter of the Network of Spiritual Progressives will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church to discuss the cost of the militarization of America.

The speaker will be Jean Athey of Peace Action Mont-

gomery, who will present a slide show exploring the extent to which the nation has chosen war and military spending over social priorities and how this choice affects people's lives and communities. The presentation "follows the money" to see where it leads, followed by a discussion.

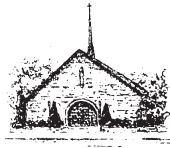


Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville/Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org



Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

March 21, 10 a.m.
"A Tribute to Ancient Wisdom"
by Shantida, homilist, with Don Henderson, worship associate and Marilyn Pearl, chalice lighter
The choir will sing – Jim Flaherty, soloist.
People are invited to come and open themselves to ancient wisdom.



ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Rev. R. Scott Hurd



St. George's Episcopal Church
Join us around a table where all are welcome!

Services

- Sundays
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)
10 a.m. main service
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)
- Wednesdays
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org



Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbeltucc.org
Sunday Worship
10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor

"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."




Greenbelt Baptist Church
101 Greenhill Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770 – (301) 474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org

Welcome!

Sunday	9:45 am	Sunday School
Sunday	11:00 am	Worship Service
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

ALL are Welcome!

"Helping People Connect with Christ and His Family Through Loving Service"



Hope Fellowship
... living life together

Bible Study & Worship

9:30 "Good Morning! Coffee and Snacks
10:00 a.m. Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Worship
Pastor Nigel C. Black, MDiv.

99 Centerway Greenbelt Rec Center
(Behind the Community Center)

BE A PART OF OUR WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION!

301-474-4499



Catholic Community of Greenbelt

SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION
TOPIC: Preparation for Holy Week

SATURDAY, MARCH 27
10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Bag lunch
coffee and tea provided
ALL ARE INVITED



City Information

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 22, 2010 - 8:00 p.m.
Municipal Building

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations
- **Census 2010 Briefing**
Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)
Minutes of Council Meetings
* - **Interviews, February 22, 2010**
* - **Regular Meeting, February 22, 2010**
* - **Work Session, February 25, 2010**
Administrative Reports
Committee Reports
Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, Report #2010-3 (Recycling at City Events)

LEGISLATION

A Resolution to Amend Resolution 1050, a Resolution to Purchase Certain Goods and Services from Various Vendors as Enumerated Herein When Total Fiscal Year Purchases from Each Vendor Exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000)
-2nd Reading, Adoption

A Resolution to Amend Resolution 743, a Resolution to Establish a Youth Advisory Committee
-1st Reading

OTHER BUSINESS

- Greenbelt Federal Courthouse Expansion
- Transit Riders United – Additional State Funding for Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center – Cell Tower
- State Legislation
- Council Reports
- * Appointments to Advisory Groups

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

3 DAY SKATE PARK TOUR
Wednesday, March 31-Friday, April 2
10:00am-5:00pm
For ages 12-16 years old.
Residents: \$100
Non-Residents: \$120

Join Greenbelt Recreation skatepark instructor, Beau Sigrist in touring some of the best skateparks in the area. A different park every day. The group will leave the Youth Center each day at 10am and return by 5pm. Designed for intermediate skateboarders. For more information, call 301-397-2200.



ANIMAL SHELTER PETS OF THE MONTH



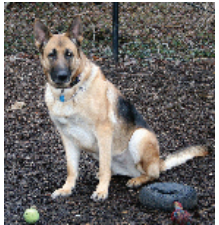
Hank: Orange and white male. 8 years old.(top left)

Frosty: Beautiful White and Gray female around 2 years old. (bottom middle)



Lex: 5 year old male tiger stripe. (right top)

Tony: 5 month old black and white male. (bottom right)



Autumn: 3 year old Female German Shepherd. Loves people and kids.

Become a fan of the Greenbelt Animal Shelter on Facebook! Greenbelt Animal Shelter is located behind the Police Station at 550-A Crescent Road, is open on Wednesdays, from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment. For more information on any of these pets, call 301.474.6124. Thank you to all for your donations. The shelter is in need of canned cat food-Friskies preferred! Please drop off donations at the shelter.

Visit Greenbelt CityLink at www.greenbeltmd.gov for city news, information and events. Become a fan of the City of Greenbelt page on FACEBOOK! Follow us on Twitter!

FINAL WEEKEND!
GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT PRESENTS
THE 2010 GREENBELT YOUTH MUSICAL
TWO MAGICAL MINI-MUSICALS IN ONE PERFORMANCE!

JUST PRETEND

A tap-dancing pirate captain meets a singing mermaid, a strict Parisian teacher is schooled by a poor balloon-seller, and a long-lost gypsy princess returns just in the nick of time! For a troupe of talented teens, a box of props is an invitation to *Just Pretend*.

HIDDEN LANDS

Rose is always scolded for daydreaming in class, and Alfred, the new boy, has trouble adjusting to school. A magic ring whisks them away for an encounter with the mysterious Phoenix -- and a surprise reunion with Ramona, the school bully. Together, can they restore the ring to its rightful owner? The answer lies in *Hidden Lands*.

SIXTEEN TALENTED TEENAGERS
TAKE THE STAGE FOR FIVE SHOWS ONLY!
DIRECTED BY CHRIS CHERRY & MUSICAL DIRECTION BY STEVE BRODD

SHOWS:
Friday, March 19 at 7:00 pm
Saturday, March 20 at 2pm & 7pm
TICKETS: \$7*
Box Office and Show Venue:
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
TO CHARGE TICKETS BY PHONE, CALL 301-397-2208
***SPECIAL \$5 PRICE FOR NEWS REVIEW READERS!**
Mention code "NEWS5" when purchasing your tickets and receive \$2 off the regular price!



Help out the Greenbelt community
- complete your Census 2010
Questionnaire!
Did you know that Census Data are...?

...used by the Federal Government to allocate more than \$400 billion to states and communities every year
...used to determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives
...used to determine locations for retail stores, schools, hospitals and other community facilities
...used to determine boundaries for state and local legislative and congressional districts
THE CENSUS IS A COUNT OF EVERYONE RESIDING IN THE UNITED STATES — CITIZENS AND NON-CITIZENS. The 2010 Census Questionnaire is Easy, Important and Safe. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Households are asked to provide key demographic information, including whether a housing unit is rented or owned; the address of the residence; and the names, genders, ages and races of others living in the household. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

We're asking all of America to "Take 10 Minutes" to complete and mail back their 2010 Census Forms. To see how Greenbelt did in 2000. Visit the real time map at <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/take10map/> -- Let's do even better in 2010!

MEETINGS FOR MARCH 22-26

Monday, March 22, 2010, 8:00 pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** at the Municipal Building. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 8:00pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION w/Planning/GHI Right-of-Way Encroachments** at the Community Center.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000 or contact the City Clerk at cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov.

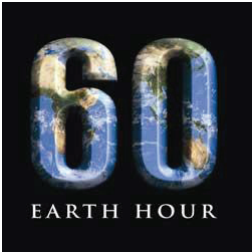
SPRING & SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION!

THE CAMPS PROGRAMS BROCHURE FOR 2010 IS NOW POSTED AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV. Registration is now being accepted by the Greenbelt Recreation Department. Download the camp brochure and forms now and secure your child's spot in the City's very popular programs. IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HARD COPY OF THE BROCHURE, PLEASE CONTACT THE RECREATION BUSINESS OFFICE AT 301-397-2200.

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES
Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. Vacancies exist on: Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Public Safety Advisory Board, Youth Advisory Board.

For more info call 301-474-8000.

Join the City of Greenbelt for



EARTH HOUR
Saturday, March 27th
8:30-9:30pm

Help us make a statement. Turn off your lights for this one hour and join the Green ACES in these activities.

Meet at the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road at 8:15pm to lower the flags and watch the lights turn off!

Then either...

TAKE A FLASHLIGHT WALK AROUND HISTORIC GREENBELT or...**ENJOY SOME STORYTELLING AT THE GREENBELT YOUTH CENTER, 99 CENTERWAY.**

For more information on the City of Greenbelt Earth Hour events email lobles@greenbeltmd.gov or call 240-542-2153. For more information on Earth Hour, visit www.earthhour.org.

Senior Special Event
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Friday, March 19 at 1:00pm,
Greenbelt Community Center.



Featuring entertainment by New Dimension Singers presenting **JUKE-BOX JAMBOREE**. Make your own sundaes!

KEEP IT AT HOME! When filling out your State Income Tax this year, please make sure to specify GREENBELT as your local government. This will assure that a portion of your taxes stays in Greenbelt.

COUNCIL continued from page 1

Councilmember Rodney Roberts’ contention that rules had not been followed concernign a topic having to do with one of council’s proposed electoral changes (changing Greenbelt elections from odd to even years).

In the provision of the rules relating to the approval of agenda; consent agenda, new language was added to read: “A request for the addition of an item to the agenda or the removal of an item from the consent agenda, shall be a matter of consideration and shall be voted upon at the time Council considers approval of the agenda or consent agenda, and Council action shall be reflected in the minutes of the meeting.”

During discussion of the revisions, the only comment was by a resident who questioned the addition of new language in a provision in Section IX.3 dealing with the First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions. A sentence had been added to the provision: “There will be no public debate or testimony on the first reading of an ordinance or resolution.”

The resident questioned the rationale for this new language, objecting to its inclusion because he felt it would stifle public commentary. Councilmembers explained that the added language clarified and strengthened the past custom that no debate or testimony should occur at the time of first reading for legislation; rather the debate takes place at the time of second reading. The discussion made clear that questions and requests for further information on the proposed ordinance or resolution were appropriate.

The revised standing rules were approved unanimously.

Pool Dehumidification

Council also approved a resolution authorizing the city recreation staff to negotiate the purchase, design and installation of two Pool Pak SWHP units and two Heat Exchange units for the Aquatic & Fitness Center at a cost not to exceed \$550,000. Recreation Department Assistant Director Joe McNeal noted that the existing units have been in service for the past 17 to 19 years. They have exceeded their useful lives, he said, and for years the city has had to make costly repairs.

The city intends to purchase the equipment and services from the firm of Shapiro and Duncan of Rockville and utilize the services of Mendoza, Ribas, Farinas & Associates as consulting engineers to assist staff with the project. Although original plans called for selection of an option for two larger units of the Pool Pak type of equipment, Jorge Ribas of the consulting firm, who was present at the meeting, indicated that because the technology has advanced since the original units were installed, he believed Greenbelt should consider small units which would represent a cost savings.

Councilmembers wanted to be sure the new units, whatever the size, worked out better than the original equipment. Beyond the two-year warranty for such equipment, Leta Mach queried McNeal on his expectations on whether the new equipment would have a good impact on the maintenance budget for the coming years. He responded: “Absolutely.”

Ribas concurred. He said the 15-year expected life for the new units could be obtained

with proper attention to required maintenance of the units and the training of personnel.

The resolution was approved 6 to 1. Roberts voted no because he had consistently objected to the use of Program Open Space (POS) funds for this project. He believes those funds should be used only for the purchase of “open space.”

Other councilmembers noted that Greenbelt’s legislative representatives had cautioned that the city needed to encumber its allocation of POS funds this fiscal year or risk its being taken back by the state and lost by the city for any use.

Call Boxes

Introduced for first reading was a resolution that would add two vendors to the city’s negotiated purchase list in order to complete a Community Development Block Grant project involving the installation of call boxes and cameras in the Empirian Village neighborhood. An emergency call box is proposed along Metro Access Drive, identified as a key location for such a box. A camera is not slated for this location due to lack of access for a high speed internet connection.

Another emergency call box and a camera are proposed for Springhill Drive near Springhill Lake Elementary School. If funds allow, a camera and possibly a call box would be replaced near the city’s Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

According to the staff report, exact locations and cost details are still under development. The preliminary estimate to complete the first two installations is \$25,000-\$35,000. The third project would be pursued as funds allow.

The two vendors are Avrio Group Surveillance Solutions of Easton, Md., for the cameras and Code Blue of Signet Technologies of Beltsville. Both vendors and their equipment have been utilized at other Greenbelt locations. The resolution will be considered at the March 22 meeting of council.

2050 Compact

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) has requested city endorsement of its report, “Region Forward – A Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21st Century.” The voluntary 2050 Compact follows a nearly two-year effort by the COG Greater Washington 2050 Coalition involving both public and other stakeholders in the metropolitan area.

It provides a planning framework for COG efforts dealing with energy, environment, land use, housing, transportation, health and public safety. The Compact’s intent is to adopt a concise series of goals that define a common vision for the region in 2050. It is large on goals but noticeably weak on specific actions, primarily relying on existing goals and master plans of the region’s governments.

Davis asked for council’s support for the Compact so the city’s endorsement could be relayed to the COG board this month. Councilmembers recognized the voluntary nature of the Compact and its usefulness as a guide and a measurement tool for assessing progress in meeting regional goals. A motion to authorize the mayor to sign the Compact on

behalf of the city was approved unanimously.

State Legislation

With just over a month to go before the 2010 Legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly adjourns, council had several state bills to consider at this meeting.

A bill (SB 212) that would repeal provisions in the Maryland Homeowners Association (HOA) Act that permit the HOA to restrict or prohibit the display of a sign relating to a candidate or ballot question was opposed by council. Councilmembers felt that the HOAs should have some ability to control the placement of political signs within their developments.

HB 537/SB 598 would repeal the sunset provision that allows College Park residents who are not University students to ride the UM Shuttle. Delegate Tawanna Gaines has informed council that an amendment to the bills would allow other municipalities to establish a program similar to College Park’s where College Park is able to negotiate a fee for providing the service to its residents. Although Greenbelt staff expressed concern that the amendment may not apply to Greenbelt, council agreed to support the amendment and continue to evaluate its applicability to Greenbelt.

Council voted to support HB 1120/SB 788 which would place additional controls on private towing companies operating in Maryland communities. The legislation reflects recommendations of a State Towing Task Force formed to address concerns regarding the operations by towing companies. Councilmembers noted the applicability of the proposed legislation to situations noted as problems in Greenbelt developments.

SB 835 was suggested for city support by Mach. It would change the timing for county governments to provide data to the state affecting the calculation for the county’s education aid formula. By changing the date from September to November, the calculation would favor county schools. Council agreed and voted to support the bills.

State Delegate Anne Healey suggested support for HB 1062, which would enable a county or municipality to grant a property tax credit for certain agricultural activities. Although staff was not sure this would apply in Greenbelt, council voted to support the bill.

The last bill considered was HB 558 which would allow certain restaurants to do business as “Night Clubs” under certain circumstances. Council wasted no time in voting to oppose the bill.

GIVE BLOOD
1-800-GIVE-LIFE

American Legion Post 217
College Park
Shrimp Feast
April 11 • 2 to 5 p.m.
Call 301-441-2783
for details

SMILEY continued from page 1

one of fewer than 100 worldwide. “It is a prestigious designation and led to my being hired at the University of Maryland,” she said. She joined the department of theatre in 2003 as a visiting professor and a year later was appointed assistant professor in Text & Acting, Voice/Speech/Dialects.

When not teaching, coaching or directing – Smiley recently directed “A Winter’s Tale” at the University – she works with productions at various venues in the D.C. area, including Ford’s Theatre, Olney Theatre, the Folger Theatre, the Shakespeare Theatre and Signature Theatre.

While the accomplishments over the span of her career are impressive, Smiley is most energized by her work directing the new Master of Fine Arts in Performance program at the University of Maryland that will begin this fall. The fully-funded program is one of only a few in the country.

“It will be one of the premier hot houses for artists to develop their creative voices,” says Smiley. The three-year course of study will embrace all performance styles from Kabuki to puppetry, African dance to stilt walking.

As a member of the selection committee, Smiley conducted four audition sessions in San Francisco, New York, Chicago and College Park. “These students will be ‘self creators,’ exploring the theory, history and the technique of writing and performing but also ways in which they can turn it into a global focus,” she says.

“Art is political and it has been since the Greeks and the Romans. We want to see this ensemble reflect the collage of humanity, steeped in the multicultural performance art of the world.”

Local Resident

Smiley’s desire to create a sense of community and her passion for the ensemble is evident in making a home in Greenbelt

for herself and her daughter Maggie, now 11 years old. “I was in a co-housing situation in Silver Spring and thinking about finding our own place when there was a house fire,” she says. My former student, Madeline Bell, and her mom Patty, suggested Greenbelt and GHI,” said Smiley. The day after the fire, she looked at GHI units and, within a few weeks, she was moving in!

She adores life in Greenbelt, where the great sense of community, her vibrant and caring court, the safe haven it provides for children, the abundant flora and fauna and close proximity to the campus and the Washington, D.C., theater scene make it the perfect place to call “home.”

Smiley lists her top accomplishments as raising her daughter to be a strong, creative and confident young woman and working in a top research university where she can continually develop and share her knowledge of the human voice, the stage and the artist’s role in the community and in the world.

Astronomical Star Parties this Weekend



On Saturday, March 20 the Astronomical Society will hold a star party at Northway Field. Members of the society will begin to set up at approximately 8 p.m. and stay at the site until about 10 p.m.

On Sunday, March 21 the Society will hold a sidewalk astronomy party at Roosevelt Center near the New Deal Café. Members will begin to observe the moon and other celestial objects at 8 p.m. and will stay until approximately 10 p.m.

In the event of rain or cloudy skies the events will be cancelled without notice. Visit www.greenbeltastro.org/events/shtml.



GREENBELT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**SRING FAIR**

MARCH 20, 2010 FROM 10 AM TO 2 PM


FOOD – GAMES – CAKE WALK

SCHOLASTIC BOOK SALE

BIKE RODEO – CRAFTS –

SILENT AUCTION (bring cash!)

NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS



PRELIMINARY AGENDA
GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING

Thursday, March 25, 2010
GHI BOARD ROOM, 7:30 PM

GHI Key Agenda Items:


- Yard Line Certification: 2 Northway
- Proposed Bylaw Change from N&E
- Next Steps of Strategic Plan
- Vehicle Purchase
- Schedule Buildings Committee Work Session
- Lender Name Change: Monument Bank
- 2010 Slate Roof Contract – 2nd Reading
- Snow Emergency Procedures Task Force

Regular Board meetings are open to Members
For more information, visit our website - www.ghi.coop

121 CENTERWAY, ROOSEVELT CENTER

Farm Fresh Produce	
Fresh Crop All Purpose White Potatoes 5 lbs.	\$ 1⁸⁸
Fresh Jumbo Cantaloupe each	\$ 2⁰⁰
Florida Red Grapefruit 5 lbs.	\$ 2⁹⁹
Fresh Crisp Iceberg Lettuce head	\$ 1⁵⁰
Fresh Brussel Sprouts 1 lb.	\$ 1⁹⁹ lb.
Florida Red Ripe Strawberries 1 lb. package	\$ 2⁵⁰

Fresh Quality Meats			
Fresh Value Pack Boneless Sirloin Steak \$3⁹⁹_{lb.}	Fresh Value Pack Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breast Tenders \$1⁸⁸_{lb.}	Fresh Natural Pork Boneless Whole Pork Loin 9-10 lb average – cut free \$1⁷⁹_{lb.}	Gusto Spiral Sliced Half Ham \$1⁴⁹_{lb.}
Fresh Lean Beef Boneless Bottom Round Roast \$2⁶⁹_{lb.}	Fresh Value Pack Boneless Country Style Spare Ribs \$2⁶⁹_{lb.}	Fresh 93% Super Lean Ground Beef \$3²⁹_{lb.}	Shurfine Smoked Boneless Whole Ham \$1⁶⁹_{lb.}

Dairy		Deli		Frozen					
Yoplait Assorted Yogurt 6 oz.	60¢	Shurfine Orange Juice 64 oz.	\$ 1⁹⁹	Kunzler Fat Free Cooked Ham	\$ 3⁹⁹_{lb.}	Swanson Classic Dinners Assorted 6-9 oz.	\$ 1²⁵	Shurfine Frozen Vegetables Assorted 16 oz.	\$ 1⁰⁰
Shurfine Pure Butter Quarters 1 lb.	\$ 2⁰⁰	Cabot Chunk Cheese 8 oz.	\$ 2⁵⁰	Deli Gourmet Roast Beef	\$ 5⁹⁹_{lb.}	Celeste Pizza For One Assorted 5-6 oz.	\$ 1⁰⁰	Breyer's Ice Cream Assorted 48 oz.	\$ 2⁶⁷
				Land-O-Lakes American Cheese	\$ 5⁹⁹_{lb.}				
Health & Beauty		Seafood				Natural & Gourmet		Bakery	
VO-5 Shampoo or Conditioner Select Varieties 15 oz.	\$ 1¹²	Fresh Catch Cod Fillets	\$ 5⁹⁹_{lb.}			Heritage Select Basmati Rice Sidedishes Assorted 6.5 oz.	\$ 2⁷⁹	Fresh Store Baked Egg Onion Sub Rolls 6 pack	\$ 2¹⁹
Day-2-Day Body Puff each	88¢	Sea Best Frozen Tilapia Fillets 1 lb. package	\$ 3⁴⁹			Anna's Cookie Thins Select Varieties 5.25 oz.	\$ 1⁹⁹	Fresh Store Baked Dutch Apple Pie 8 inch	\$ 3⁹⁹

Shurfine Apple Juice 64 oz.	\$ 1 ²⁹	Chicken of the Sea Solid White Tune 5 oz.	\$ 1 ⁰⁰	Grocery Bargains		Hunt's Spaghetti Sauce Assorted 26 oz.	\$ 1 ⁰⁰	Shurfine Spaghetti and Macaroni Assorted 12-16 oz.	99¢
Folgers Value Size Ground Coffee Select Varieties 22-34 oz.	\$ 5 ⁹⁹	Kraft Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip Assorted 23-30 oz.	\$ 2 ⁹⁹	Green Giant Canned Vegetables Select Varieties 11-15 oz.	\$ 1 ⁸⁸	Kellogg's Mini-Wheat Cereals Assorted 14-18 oz.	\$ 1 ⁹⁹	Xtra 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent 68 oz.	\$ 2 ⁵⁰
								Thomas Original English Muffins 6 pack	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robberies

March 6, 5:40 p.m., 7700 block Hanover Parkway. Four nonresident juveniles were investigated for strong arm robbery and released from the police station after allegedly assaulting and robbing a person.

March 8, 9:09 p.m., Breezewood Court at Springhill Lane. A person was approached by four people who displayed a handgun and demanded money. The two black males are described as 21 to 22 years old, 5'9" to 5'10" tall, one 160 to 180 pounds, wearing a dark top and blue jeans and the other 160 to 170 pounds. The description for the first female is 19 to 21 years old, 5'9" to 5'10" tall, 120 to 130 pounds, wearing a black coat and blue jeans and for the second female, 19 to 20 years old, 4'6" to 4'8" tall, 95 to 100 pounds, wearing a brown leather coat and black pants.

Burglaries

March 5, 5:23 p.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. Currency and a ring set were taken.

March 8, 6:39 p.m., 7800 block Mandan Road. A laptop, game systems and a camera were taken.

March 12, 2:09 a.m., 6900 block Hanover Parkway. A metal safe containing currency was taken.

Drug Arrests

March 10, 6:37 p.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A 23-year-old nonresident male was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 10, 10:01 p.m., 9200 block Springhill Lane. A resident juvenile was petitioned for possession of marijuana and then released to a parent pending action by the Department of Juvenile Services.

No License

March 6, 5:58 p.m., Roosevelt Center. A nonresident juvenile was petitioned for driving without a license after a traffic accident

ERHS Locks Down For Gunshot Report

At 11:29 a.m. on Tuesday, March 16 Greenbelt Police received a report of a gun being fired in a wooded area near Eleanor Roosevelt High School. Police investigated and brought in K-9 units and a U.S. Park Police helicopter to search the area. Nothing was found.

For a short time, while the matter was being investigated, the school was put under lockdown. The report did not appear to be school-related and there were no problems with the students at the school according to Kelly Lawson, police public information officer.

and was later released to a parent pending action by the Department of Juvenile Services.

Vandalism

March 11, 8:31 a.m., 9100 block Edmonston Road. An apartment window was broken.

March 11, 2:34 p.m., 7900 block Mandan Road. Graffiti was found in the storage area of a building.

Vehicle Crimes

Two vehicles were stolen, a blue 2005 Infinity with MD tags taken from the 6400 block Capitol Drive on March 5 and a blue 1996 Audi with MD tags taken from the 7700 block Hanover Parkway on March 11.

A red 1990 Toyota Corolla stolen from the 9300 block Edmonston Road on March 7 was recovered March 9 in the 13000 block Old Fletchertown Road, Bowie, with no arrests made.

Two MD tags stolen from the 9100 block Edmonston Road were recovered in the 2100 block Harford Road, Baltimore. No arrests were made.

One report of theft from auto occurred March 5 in the 7700 block Ora Court (GPS unit).

Vandalism was reported March 9 in 5 Court Gardenway (tire cut and window broken) and March 10 in the Greenway Shopping Center (tire cut).

A Review

Double Feature Dazzles Audience

by Mary Moien

When it comes to music and the Greenbelt Recreation Department, two names stand out – Chris Cherry and Stefan Brodd. Cherry is now directing the 2010 Greenbelt Youth Musical, which actually consists of two shorter musicals, "Just Pretend," written by Chris Cherry's brother Mark Cherry and Tom Harrington and "Hidden Lands," written by Chris Cherry. Brodd is the musical director.

The musicals opened to an enthusiastic audience at the Community Center on March 13 and will have three more performances, Friday, March 19 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 20 at 2 and 7 p.m.

If you like tap-dancing pirates and gypsy princesses, you'll enjoy "Just Pretend." "Hidden Lands" starts with a student who daydreams in school, much to the annoyance of her teacher. There are a total of 16 actors with about half of them playing a number of major roles and the others being the chorus/dancers, as gypsies, young girls and islanders, depending on the scene.

The staging and costumes are minimal but sufficient to set the scene for lots of action. There are many memorable songs and most of them are clear enough for the audience to both hear and understand the words. The Crystal Ball, What's the Use of Being Good, and The Castle in the Air stand out in this reporter's mind. The songs are all accompanied by



The cast of Just Pretend and Hidden Lands. Seated, front row: Johlize McNeil, Ron Ebisawa and Elena Shipley. Seated behind, Flavia Perotta, Aaron Goldstein, Emily Anderson, Sofia Zocca, Abram Shaw, Jonas Ventimiglia and Alma Knutson. Standing: Barbara Turnbull, Hannah Butcher, Suzannah Noyes, Alex Butcher (in rear), Liana Ventimiglia and Scott Kincaid.

Brodd on piano.

Many of the actors have been in Greenbelt plays before, including through the Greenbelt Creative Kids Camp. Students are of all school ages and come from a wide variety of area schools including Greenbelt Elementary, Hyattsville Middle, Goddard Middle, DeMatha, Georgetown Visitation and Northwood, as well as home schooled children.

Although most in the audience were parents, siblings and friends,

a number were other Greenbelters who decided to come see what Cherry and Brodd had put together this time. Both are well-known in Greenbelt among various groups, where they entertain either by singing or leading others in songs. They recently entertained the Golden Agers with a sing-a-long of favorite songs.

Watching these students performing and enjoying good songs and fun stories makes for a good evening in Greenbelt.

GATE Annual Meeting Will Be Held Sunday

Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATE) will hold its annual membership meeting on Sunday, March 21 from 3 to 5 p.m. in the GATE Studio on the second floor at the Greenbelt Community Center.

The guest speaker will be Philip Reilly, an associate producer at the Discovery Channel, discussing his beginning as an intern and his plans for the future.

Members are urged to attend. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

For more information call the GATE Studio at 301-507-6581 or email info@greenbelttv.org.

Dining Out to Fight Arthritis

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Mon., March 22nd
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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

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WANTED – Kiln time. After school clay club looking to rent kiln space while our kiln is out of order. Contact jenifer@friendscommunityschool.org

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CENSUS continued from page 1

Meanwhile, Virginians were left with \$861 each, according to The Post, which cites a Brookings Institution study. So what's the deal? Primarily Medicaid, which sucks up a whopping 58 percent of federal funds each year.

But that's not all, folks. Since 1790, the once-in-a-decade census has been our government's way of apportioning seats in Congress based on each state's head count. This year, it consists of 10 questions for each household, including the number of people in each home, their race, name, age, gender . . . oh, and "what is your telephone number?"

For some, like Texas Congressman Ron Paul, this is unacceptable. "The invasive nature of the current census raises serious questions about how and why government will use the collected information," Paul wrote in a weekly column to his constituents last week. "It also demonstrates how the federal bureaucracy consistently encourages citizens to think of themselves in terms of groups, rather than as individual Americans."

Local Greenbelter Warren Kasper disagrees. "I see no red flags here," he said Tuesday, looking over the bureau's 10-question form. "Demographic data has a lot of utility to governments, businesses and local organizations in communities."

A self-described "cantankerous old fart," Greenbelter John Drago took a slightly different approach. "In Japan, everybody's Japanese," he said, his white hair spilling out of a bandana wrapped around his head. "Now, how do you find a good burrito in Japan?" he then asked. "You don't."

If nothing else, Drago said he would like to see more questions in the census. "It's a way to find out what we're made of."

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's website, one can find plenty about what Greenbelt's made of. For instance, 24 percent of the people living in Greenbelt between 2006-08 were foreign born and 23 percent (over the age of five) spoke a language other than English at home.

Figures like these prompted the bureau to expand its outreach efforts for the 2010 census and also lean on many non-profit and community organizations that have volunteered to spread the message to undercounted communities: "We can't move forward until you mail it back," goes the motto. (And in over 50 languages.)

For those households – whether rented or owned – which fail to mail the form back to the bureau, each can expect to hear a knock at the door in May with a census taker behind it. Of course, such special attention won't mean you're special, or famous. No, it will just mean that you've cost taxpayers more money.

"We could save \$1.5 billion by not having to pay [door-to-door] census takers," said Shelly Lowe,

a spokeswoman for the Census Bureau. Lowe also added that for every percentage point increase in mail-back rates – which in Maryland reached 73 percent in 2000 – the Census Bureau saves about \$85 million. That's beaucoup bucks.

Wait a minute. The U.S. Census Bureau itself is no squirrel. Or so says Commerce Department inspector general Todd Zinser through a 2010 quarterly report addressed to Congress. One such nugget from the February report states that "10,235 [temporary census] employees did not work at all but earned approximately \$3.4 million for attending training."

And as for the overall estimated costs of the 2010 Census? Boom – \$14.7 billion, according to Zinser's report.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Citizens Against Government Waste (CAGW) labeled Locke and Census Director Robert Groves as the CAGW's February "Porkers of the Month." Other critics were as equally scathing, particularly of the bureau's \$2.5 million "Snapshot of America" Super Bowl ad, which several critics called a flop. "Really, Census people, that's as good as you can do?" MSNBC's Chuck Todd twittered (or tweeted) of the 30-second ad. "That should cost Hollywood a [Congressional] Seat."

Fraud, waste and abuse aside, Greenbelters can expect to see their census questionnaires arrive in the mail this week. And remember, as Bathrobe Frank reminds us all, it only takes one guy.

Children's Medical Care Grants Offered

United Healthcare's Children's Foundation is seeking applications from families needing assistance with medical expenses not covered by their commercial health insurance for children 16 years of age or younger in Maryland and Virginia. Qualifying families can receive up to \$5,000 to pay for medical services such as physical and occupational therapy, prescriptions, wheelchairs, orthotics and eyeglasses.

The foundation awarded grants to 450 families last year. To be eligible, families must meet economic guidelines and have a commercial health insurance plan.

The application acceptance process is on-going: there is no deadline. Application criteria and additional information are available at www.uhccf.org.

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U.S. CENSUS

• 2010 •

APRIL

1

Be Counted!

Homes Get Census Forms by Mail

Celia Craze, Greenbelt's director of Planning and Community Development, briefed council on plans for the upcoming 2010 U.S. Census.

As her department is a principal user of census data, Craze is the city's point person for making sure all Greenbelt households participate in the 2010 count. Responses to the census forms should include everyone living at an address.

Addresses where no one responds to the questionnaire will be visited in person by a census worker beginning in late April through July. Craze noted that census workers can be identified by a census badge. They do not need to enter the home, their brief questions can be handled at the door.

– Thomas X. White

Greenbriar to Hold Kids Easter Party

Children from the Greenbriar/Glen Oaks community are invited to an Easter party on Saturday, March 27 from 10 a.m. to noon in Greenbriar's Terrace Room. The party will feature an egg hunt, egg painting and photographs with the Easter Bunny.

For details call Tiesha Eley at 301-441-1096 or send an email to teley.greenbriar@verizon.net.




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New Deal Café Upcoming Events

On Friday evening, March 19 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Greenbelt piano player John Guernsey will play jazz and blues (every Friday). The night entertainment features Hot Club of DC's gypsy jazz and swing from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Saturday, March 20 from 1 to 2:45 p.m. guitar virtuoso Steve Pollack plays, followed from 4 to 6 p.m. by classical guitarist Bruce Kritt. Saturday night from 8 to 11 p.m. will feature jazz legend Buck Hill, with the Jerome Meltzer Group.

On Sunday, March 21 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Not 2 Cool Jazz with Mike Grasso will play during brunch hours. The monthly kids' Open Microphone session follows from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Mateo Monk's reggae/jam band/bluegrass will play from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday from 7 to 9 p.m. is the reception for the March art show. Allison Smith has a "Chairs and Fruit" exhibit and Karen Van Allen shows "Abstract Paintings 2010."

On Tuesday, March 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. Steve Haug plays folk, Americana and pop music. There will be an Open Cajun Music Jam on Wednesday, March 24 from 7 to 9 p.m. The special monthly open microphone music session will be held on Thursday, March 25 from 7 to 9 p.m.

Anyone Play Baseball Here 60 Years Ago?

Greenbelt Baseball, in celebrating the start of its 60th anniversary, is looking for someone who played on a Little League team in 1951. That means someone roughly 69 to 72 years of age and that person would throw out the first ball of the first game.

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Astronomy Club Hears About Lunar Orbiter

The March meeting of the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will be held on Thursday, March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the H.B. Owens Science Center in Lanham. It will feature a free presentation by Craig Tooley on NASA's Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO) mission. The LRO was launched last June and is currently orbiting the moon, using a suite of powerful instruments to map the moon's topology, environment and potential resources. Tooley, an engineer at Goddard Space Flight Center, is the project manager for the LRO mission. The presentation will cover the design of the mission, the construction of the spacecraft at Goddard Space Flight Center and examples of the kind of data and images LRO is returning during its mission.

Prior to his current assignment Tooley served as head of the Hubble Space Telescope Instrument Development Office at Goddard. He has been employed by NASA since 1983 and has a background in mechanical engineering.

The H.B. Owens Science Center is at 9601 Greenbelt Road.

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Your Greenbelt Specialists

A Review

Two Musicals Feature Far-away Lands

by Anne Gardner

For a very enjoyable evening of drama, music and dance involving pirates, mermaids, gypsies and a very talented cast of young people, you need go no further than our own Community Center and the 10th annual Greenbelt Youth Musical, directed by Chris Cherry, with assistant director Colleen Arnold (a Youth Musical alumna).

This year’s show consists of two one-act plays, with an intermission between them. “Just Pretend,” written by Mark Cherry and Tom Harrington, transports us to the pirate ship “Imagination,” then to a street in Paris and finally to the woods of Transylvania, to meet colorful groups of pirates, Parisians and gypsies. In each location we are encouraged to use our imaginations and play “let’s pretend” in short, unrelated stories.

The second play, “Hidden Lands” by Chris Cherry, may be familiar to Creative Kids Camp attendees. Three school children are transported to an imaginary island in the sun, where we enjoy a reprise of the antics of the “Terrible Band of Pirates” and the stunning mermaid, as well as meet amusing “Matinee Monkeys” and a regal and all-knowing Phoenix.

While completing their mission on the island, the children learn that magic must be shared. So they repair their own relationships while helping the island’s Prince Charming to be reunited with his long lost love.

The teenage cast is a talented and confident group, obviously having fun – as, inevitably, does the audience, thanks to the witty dialogue and catchy songs. As in previous years, we are wowed by the wonderful voices of veteran Youth Musical performers Liana Ventimiglia and Scott Kincaid. Hopefully we will see more of young newcomers Jonas Ventimi-



PHOTO BY HELEN SYDAVAR

Pirates, islanders and a mermaid welcome visitors to the Island of the Sun in Hidden Lands. Left to right: Suzannah Noyes, Aaron Goldstein, Abram Shaw, Johlize McNeil, Liana Ventimiglia, Scott Kincaid, Ron Ebisawa, Alma Knutson and Sofia Zocca.

glia and Emily Anderson. Jonas Ventimiglia displays a wide range of talent, in singing, dancing and acting, as the tap-dancing Captain Roger, the schoolboy Alfred and the expressive mute balloon-seller Etienne. Anderson also gives a strong performance as Rose.

Johlize McNeil (Madame Mouton) and Flavia Perrotta (Ramona) also give strong vocal performances and Alex Butcher deftly engages the audience as the colorful Phoenix and crystal-ball reader. Special mention should also be made of budding actors Sofia Zocca (Sonya), Alma Knutson (Angèle) and Aaron Goldstein (Gregor). Also in the limelight are Abram Shaw, Ron Ebisawa, Elena Shipley, Hannah Butcher, Suzannah Noyes and Barbara Turnbull.

The musical numbers are accompanied superbly, as always, by Stefan Brodd on piano. Choreography is by Ian Brown-Gor-

rell and Chase Kinney. The set, which is simple but effective, incorporates large paintings of trees, which were created by students from St. Hugh’s school on a field trip to the Community Center and are now a permanent

stage backdrop in the gym.

Additional performances of the Greenbelt Youth Musical will take place on Friday, March 19 and Saturday, March 20 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available from the Community Center.



Condolences to the family, friends and members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church on the death of longtime former pastor Rev. Edward Birner on March 14, 2010.

Our sympathy to Erika Boyd on the death of her husband, Benjamin E. Boyd, who died on February 8, 2010.

Congratulations to:

– Air Force Airman Sean O. Ijeomah, who graduated from basic military training at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas. Ijeomah, a 2009 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, is the son of LaShaun Ijeomah of Westway.



– Air Force Airman Jeffrey P. Lanier, who graduated from basic military training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, Texas. Lanier graduated from Eleanor Roosevelt High School in 2004 and is the son of Samuel and Pamela Oliver of Cherrywood Terrace.



Send us your reports of new babies, awards, honors, etc. to share with our readers. To send information for “Our Neighbors” email us at newsreview@greenbelt.com or leave a message at 301-474-6892.

– Kathleen McFarland

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